

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A plasma display panel drive apparatus that executes  
a gradation display by having an address period in which  
5 light-emitting cells are set, and a sustain period in which  
the light-emitting cells that were set in the address period  
are repeatedly lit up, comprising:

a pulse-output device which outputs a drive pulse to the  
plasma display panel during the sustain period;

10 a first intensity-level-detection device which detects  
the average intensity level;

a second intensity-level-detection device which detects  
the intensity level of each discharge cell; and

15 a pulse-voltage-control device which controls the  
pulse-output device such that the drive-pulse voltage changes  
based on the average intensity level detected by the first  
intensity-level-detection device, and the intensity level  
of each the discharge cell that was detected by the second  
intensity-level-detection device.

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2. The plasma display panel drive apparatus according  
to claim 1, wherein

the pulse-voltage-control device controls the  
pulse-output device by increasing the drive-pulse voltage  
25 when the average intensity level that is detected by the first  
intensity-level-detection device is less than a specified  
level, and the intensity level of each the discharge cell

detected by the second intensity-level-detection device is greater than a specified level.

3. The plasma display panel drive apparatus according  
5 to claim 1, wherein

the pulse-voltage-control device controls the pulse-output device by increasing the drive-pulse voltage according to the intensity level of each the discharge cell detected by the second intensity-level-detection device when  
10 the average intensity level that is detected by the first intensity-level-detection device is less than a specified level.

4. A method of driving a plasma display panel for executing  
15 a gradation display by having an address period in which light-emitting cells are set, and a sustain period in which the light-emitting cells that were set in the address period are repeatedly lit up, the method comprising:

a pulse-output process of outputting a drive pulse to  
20 the plasma display panel during the sustain period;

a first intensity-level-detection process of detecting the average intensity level;

a second intensity-level-detection process of detecting the intensity level of each discharge cell; and

25 a pulse-voltage-control process of controlling the pulse-output device such that the drive-pulse voltage changes based on the average intensity level detected by the first

intensity-level-detection device, and the intensity level of each the discharge cell that was detected by the second intensity-level-detection device.

5        5. A driving a plasma display panel program embodied in a recording medium which can be read by a computer in a plasma display panel drive apparatus that executes a gradation display by having an address period in which light-emitting cells are set, and a sustain period in which the light-emitting 10 cells that were set in the address period are repeatedly lit up, the program making the computer function as:

          a pulse-output device which outputs a drive pulse to the plasma display panel during the sustain period;

15        a first intensity-level-detection device which detects the average intensity level;

          a second intensity-level-detection device which detects the intensity level of each discharge cell; and

20        a pulse-voltage-control device which controls the pulse-output device such that the drive-pulse voltage changes based on the average intensity level detected by the first intensity-level-detection device, and the intensity level of each the discharge cell that was detected by the second intensity-level-detection device.